

# RHODE ISLAND HISTORY

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JOHN BROWN HOUSE  
view from the south-west  
(see inside front cover)

THE RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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**ISSUED QUARTERLY AT PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND**

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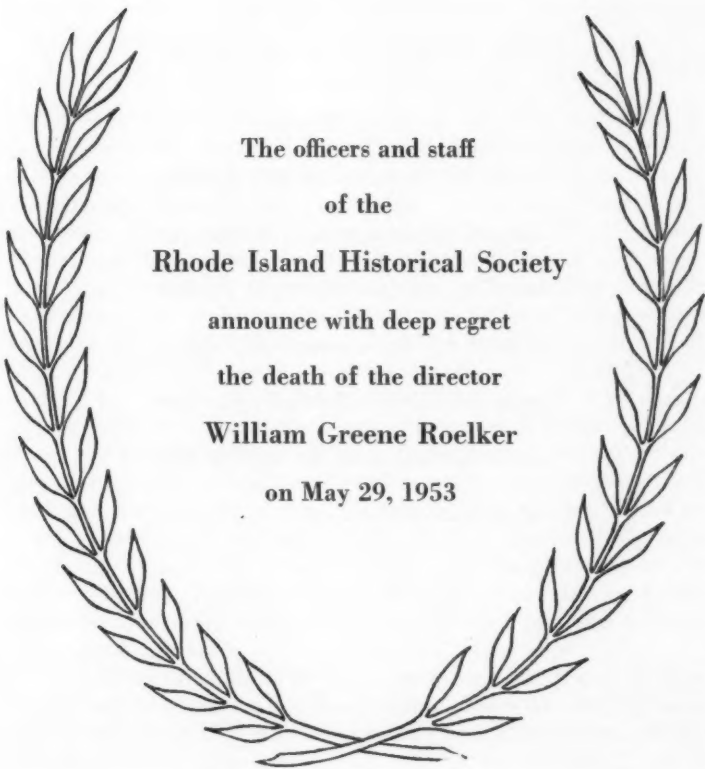
**JOHN BROWN HOUSE**  
view from the south-west

(photograph by Laurence E. Tilley)

*Situated on the brow of a hill, John Brown House, the headquarters of the Rhode Island Historical Society, has resisted attempts to have itself photographed from the southwest. However, aided by a platform truck from the Narragansett Electric Company's street lighting division, the photographer was elevated about thirty feet in the air to obtain the view reproduced on the front cover.*

*The west entrance (on the left) was blocked off around 1903, when the house was owned by Marsden Perry, to allow for the enlargement of the dining room. The windows at the extreme left are in the ell of the building, which was erected in 1853. After the passing of one hundred sixty-seven years, the house still possesses a distinction and beauty not to be out-rivaled by any other form of architecture.*

*A letter to the editor of the PROVIDENCE SUNDAY JOURNAL of March 16, 1902, from Christopher Dexter, states, "The brick for the John Brown house were made by Zephaniah Shores at a place near Pomham, East Providence." This bit of evidence throws doubt upon the story that the house is made of imported brick used as ballast; we include it as a matter of record.*



The officers and staff  
of the  
Rhode Island Historical Society  
announce with deep regret  
the death of the director  
William Greene Roelker  
on May 29, 1953

*At the request of the family,  
flowers were omitted at the fu-  
neral of our late director. In lieu  
a fund has been established for a  
memorial to Mr. Roelker. Further  
contributions may be sent to the  
Historical Society.*

# RHODE ISLAND HISTORY

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## JOHN BROWN'S DINNER SET

by ELEANORE BRADFORD MONAHON\*

THIS UNUSUALLY attractive dinner set of oriental porcelain, which John Brown once imported from Canton, China, is a recent gift to the Society from Miss Agnes Herreshoff of Bristol, Rhode Island, a descendant of the Providence merchant. There are 114 pieces still remaining of the original 172, including 48 large plates, 10 dessert plates, 4 pudding dishes, 3 covered vegetable dishes, an open vegetable dish, 2 rare salts, 11 platters of varying sizes, a fish platter with drain inset, 3 sauce boats with trays, 12 soup plates, an open-work basket, a very rare, small, nine-piece condiment centerpiece equipped with six small, shell-shaped curry dishes. The set is Oriental export ware of the type usually called Oriental Lowestoft. Its floral design consists of a central urn which holds a bouquet of passion flowers, fruit, and foliage, accented with the finest gold tracery. A unique decorative feature of the urn is the all-over peacock feather design with tiny rouge-de-fer centers. The intermediate space is filled with a swag of well-executed small flowers and dots. The wide blue-trim border is overlaid with a very delicate crisscross gold swag of the finest execution. This flower swag and urn follow the classical design, which became popular at the Bristol and Newhall porcelain factories in England near 1800.

In addition to the floral decorated dinner set just described, John Brown owned a ciphered or monogrammed dinner set, many pieces of which still exist. This set was imported in his ship, *General Washington*, in 1789. The ciphered set had the simple wide Nanking border and a wreath surrounding the gilt JB monogram. James Brown, the eldest of John Brown's five children, who kept a line-a-day diary, writes at the end of his notes for 1788:

\*Mrs. Monahon, a teacher at Moses Brown School, is a leader in the Providence Pottery and Porcelain Club.



#### ORIENTAL LOWESTOFT

Several pieces from the John Brown dinner set, imported from Canton about 1795, given to the Society by Miss Agnes M. Herreshoff. Clockwise from the top: a pudding dish, 9½"; an open-work basket without the stand; a six-inch dessert plate; two of the original four open salts; and a sauce boat with leaf-shaped stand.

Articles J. B. sent for to the E. Indies, by ship Genl. Washington, Sailed from Spring-green 22d Decemr. 1787, viz—

10 Pieces best Nankeens

6 fine muslin Waistcoat Patterns—

a Service best blue & white China for Dining Table

a Service Tea China every Piece with the Cypher J B—

also a large Bowel with J. B—<sup>1</sup>

We know that according to the invoice of goods shipped on the *General Washington* from Canton, January 27, 1789,<sup>2</sup> these two

<sup>1</sup>*R. I. History*. April, 1948, v. 7, no. 2, p. 56-57.

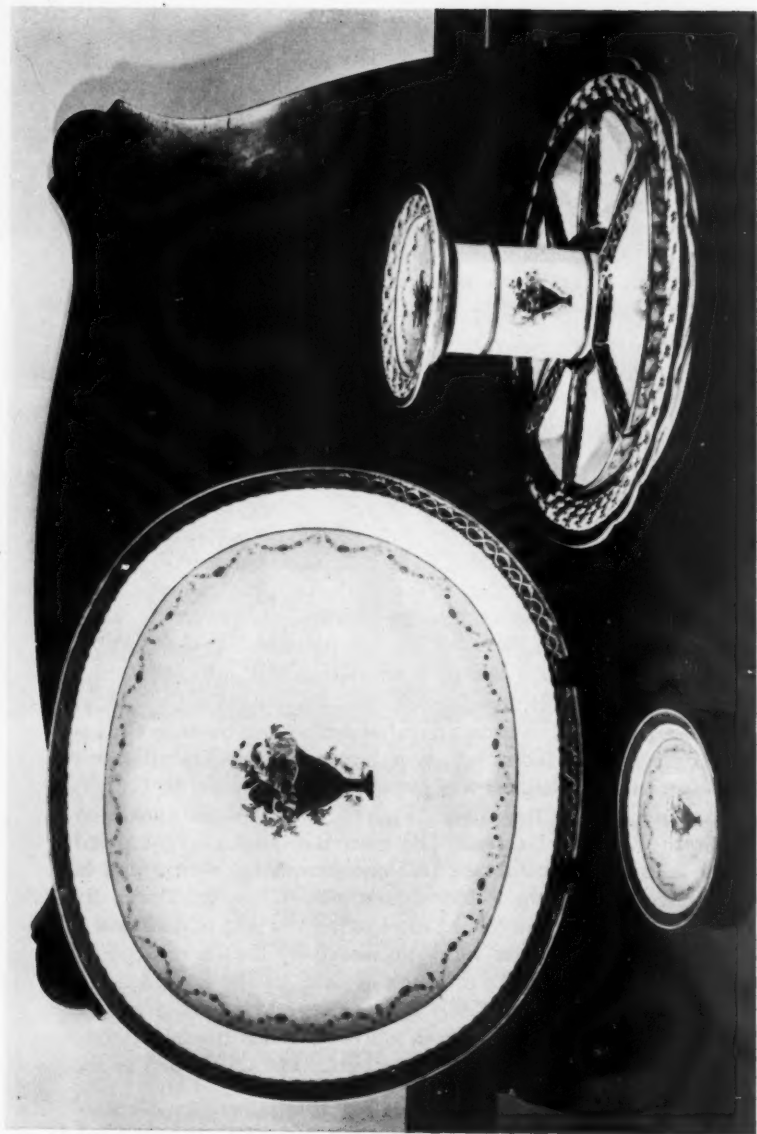
ciphered sets arrived here six months later. This china was of the best common blue and white or the pattern named from the trade port of Nanking, but with the cipher substituted for the usual Chinese island scene. Porcelain of the Canton pattern, which is a simpler, cruder form of the Nanking, and the Nanking porcelain formed the bulk of the china trade from 1750 to 1825.

Since John Brown's floral dinner set is an example of one of the so-called Lowestoft decorative types and the ciphered set is an example of another, it might be well to remind ourselves that Americans in the 1790's were importing still other varieties. There was much marine ware, china decorated with stock pictures of ships. The enamelers on the island of Honam near the city of Canton used as models the American trading vessels lying at anchor at Whampoa and varied them to suit the purchasers.

Geometrical or pseudo-armorial decorations adorned still other sets of dishes; while the great American eagle, coats of arms of the states, and the somewhat ludicrous figure of Fame flying gayly through the air on the Cincinnati china were also used as decorations on china brought in on Providence ships. The Cincinnati china has an elaborate border; the Fitzhugh, a trellis with four split pomegranates showing the fruit inside and butterflies with wings spread. It was a period of great patriotic emphasis but dominated by classic simplicity. Unpopular now were the large Louis XV flowers, the tri-colored Imari designs, and the religious and genre scenes of earlier years.

The ware of the John Brown floral dinner set was made in Ching-teh-Chen, a Chinese industrial city well inland, some 200 miles west south-west of Shanghai. It was carried by water routes to Canton and by land through the Meiling Pass to Shaochow and thence by the North River to Canton. The materials, kaolin, decomposed granite feldspar and pétuntse (fusible white quartz) were found in the neighborhood of the PoYiang Lake near Ching-teh-Chen. By 1795 oriental shapes had for the most part given way to occidental; for example, coupé plates were superseded by the rimmed plates which held the condiments so much enjoyed by the foreign devils (as the Chinese called the Westerners). After one man modeled the pieces on a clumsy potter's wheel, a second and a third workman perfected the dishes with hand and chisel. The differences in the

<sup>2</sup>Brown Papers, John Carter Brown Library.



# ORIENTAL LOWESTOFT

Platter, 16" x 19", the largest one in the John Brown's floral decorated dinner set, a six-inch dessert plate, and the small condiment set, 7 1/4" high in its stand, 12 1/2" x 14 1/2". The condiment set is extremely rare and this one is in prime condition.



modeling of the pieces of the set show a more skilled hand employed on some than on others. The blue band around the edge of the pieces was doubtless added at Canton, where skillful enamelers painted pieces and sets to order, copying simple directions or intricate western engravings.

Prices at Canton offer us a decided jolt. In an anonymous manuscript notebook at the Rhode Island Historical Society called "Notes and Observations on Commerce," we find a great deal of good advice for the trader at Canton in the year 1797. The author tells how to approach the great Chinese merchant princes, what merchandise he might find, the value and rates of exchange of Cantonese money, the duties and the current prices of export and import articles. Of the nine and one-half pages devoted to Chinese exports, porcelains take up four and one-half pages. The following entry, a dinner set of 172 pieces, was offered for \$22.

A dinner sett, Nankin blue & White China

|                                    |    |                                  |
|------------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|
| viz, 6 doz. large flat plates..... | 72 | } 172 ps. .... 22.00 .... [sett] |
| 2 doz. .... " soup.....            | 24 |                                  |
| 2 doz. small desert .... do.....   | 24 |                                  |
| 8 pudding dishes .....             | 8  |                                  |
| 2 large Tureens, dishes & tops...  | 6  |                                  |
| 2 smaller do..... do.....          | 6  |                                  |
| 16 dishes various sizes.....       | 16 |                                  |
| 6 sauce bóats & stands.....        | 12 |                                  |
| 4 Salts .....                      | 4  |                                  |

The notebook reveals that tea and coffee sets, "old fashion kind," of eighty-one pieces, sold in Canton for six to nine dollars, while "Jars and Tumblers [garnitures] for ornaments to a Chimney, 6 to 18 inch high, 5 in a sett" brought between seventy-five cents and five dollars. Again common blue and white (Canton pattern) custard cups with tops brought the amazing figure of three to seven dollars for a hundred pieces. As to design, the notebook further lists the federal eagle, the black and white penciled wares, and the Masonic decorations. Gold was rarely used on the Nanking sets. There is no definite mention of flowered sets, but the phrase, "tea setts of China agreeable to pattern, figure, and painting" probably embraced such unusual and distinctive decorations as the peacock urn and swags of the John Brown dinner set here illustrated.

## NOTES ON TWO EARLY RHODE ISLAND GOVERNORS

by BERTHA W. CLARK\*

### GOVERNOR JOHN CRANSTON

IT IS WELL KNOWN that after the death of Governor John Cranston in 1680 his widow Mary, daughter of Jeremiah and Frances (Latham-Dungan) Clarke, married Captain John Stanton; but it is not generally known that between these two marriages Mary had still another husband, Philip Jones of New York, Boston, and Rhode Island. This fact is shown conclusively by the several items below:

On 15 June 1683 Philip Jones of New York, merchant, for £200 mortgaged to Rebecca Tailer, widow of William Tailer, merchant, late of Boston, deceased, and to John Nelson, merchant, of Boston, administratrix and administrator to the estate of William Tailer,

all that his Messuage or Tenement . . . in the Town of Newport . . . with all the land belonging to the same (excepting the buriall place of John Gard and his wife) being upwards of Three quarters of an Acre . . . bounded on the South by the land late in the Possession of William Brenton mercht decd, and bounded on the North by Lands . . . of Capt Peleg Sanford abutting upon the East on the hieway that Extends North and South in the said Town, And so the sd Land Extendith Twelve foot down into the sea . . . with all houses Outhouses . . . buildings . . . if . . . Philip Jones his heires . . . shall . . . pay . . . Rebecca Tailer and John Nelson . . . the sum of two hundred and four pounds of Currant mony of New-England . . . one hundred pounds . . . before the first day of Septembr . . . And the sum of One hundred and four Pounds more . . . before the first day of March next insueing . . . then this present . . . Indenture . . . shall . . . be voyd.

Wit.

John Hayward Not. Pub.  
Eliezer Moody

Phillip Jones  
Boston . . . Octob 16th 1685  
. . . Bradstreet Governor  
Sam Sewall Assistant<sup>1</sup>

Judge Sewall's interleaved almanac shows that Philip Jones was buried Thursday, 2 Oct. 1684.<sup>2</sup>

\*Miss Clark of Boston is a genealogist of note and has left with the Society her ms. genealogy of the Baker family.

<sup>1</sup>*Rhode Island Land Evidences* (Providence, 1921) v. 1, p. 192-193.

<sup>2</sup>*N. E. Hist. and Gen. Reg.*, Oct., 1853, v. 7, no. 4, p. 345.

On 10 Nov. 1684 Benjamin Newberry and Andrew Willett reported that an inventory of the personal estate of Philip Jones, deceased, taken at the house of Samuel Cranston, had been furnished them by the widow, Mrs. Mary Jones. The valuation was £194-16-11.<sup>3</sup>

On 11 Apr. 1685 Samuel Cranston of Newport sold to Richard Wharton, merchant, of Boston, all his right and title in a small neck of land called Homogansett, and his right in a small island called Annoxett, alias Fox Island,

And doe warrant it free of all manner of Challeng, Claime or Incumberance by reason of any right of my deceased father, major John Cranston, in Witness hereof, I have set my [hand] and seale and by Consent of my Mother, Mrs. Mary Jones, . . .

Samuell Cranston & seale

Mary Jones & seale<sup>4</sup>

M

her marke

On 29 Oct. 1685 although the property mortgaged in 1683

became forfeited unto Rebecca Tailer and John Nelson . . . be it . . . known That the sd Rebecca Tailer and John Nelson for . . . Sixty two pounds Currant mony of New England . . . paid by Mary Jones Relict widow of the sd Phillip Jones . . . have given . . . the afore-sd Messuage or tenement with all the Land belonging<sup>5</sup> . . .

On 1 Nov. 1688 Mary Stanton rendered an account of her administration. The account begins:

The account of John Stanton gent and Mary his wife Administratrix of all and Singular the Goods & Creditts Rights and Chattells of Phillip Jones gent her late husband dec'd.

Philip's creditors were about equally distributed among New York, Boston, and Rhode Island and the sum paid to them was £232-17-11. One item was

£8 for freight on goods of said Philip Jones in his life time from Boston and other pts.

From this it would seem that his death had occurred soon after

<sup>3</sup>Suffolk County Probate, 10:404-405.

<sup>4</sup>James N. Arnold, ed., . . . *The Fones Record* (Providence, 1894) p. 81; duplicated p. 110.

<sup>5</sup>*Rhode Island Land Evidences*, v. 1, p. 193-194.

removing from Boston to Newport. The account closes with:

Mary Stanton the late widdow and administratrix of Phillip Jones late of Rhoad Island decd appeared before me and made oath to the truth of the acct of her administration.

Sworne the first of November 1688

J. West Secry

Andros<sup>6</sup>

#### GOVERNOR CALEB CARR

The first printed reference to Caleb Carr that I have seen (*Records of the Colony of Rhode Island, Rhode Island Land Evidences, The Fones Record, Austin's Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island*, and the Carr genealogies) is in the year 1654, at which time Caleb was thirty years old. I have recently found records of two earlier transactions.

In North Kingstown land records is the following mutilated deed; dated 23 Jan. 1651 and signed by Caleb Carr:

100.....  
bounded by  
..... and harbor  
Valentine Wightman

land which was laid out for John Sanfor—  
sold to John Greene.

Witnesses

John Hickes<sup>\*</sup>  
Providence Williams  
Thomas May

Immediately following Caleb's signature is added:

I the said Caleb Carr do Ackno . . . That I am to pay & discharge . . . for the Purchasing of the La . . . said. Witness my hand this 23d of Ja—

Caleb Carr

Witnesses

John Hickes  
Providence Williams  
Thomas May  
Entered upon the 29th day of D———<sup>7</sup>

And in the State Archives at Providence is the record of a 1647 transaction, which refers to an earlier, undated purchase. This

<sup>6</sup>Suffolk County Probate, 10:405-409.

<sup>7</sup>North Kingstown Land Records, 1:78.

record states that Caleb Carr of Newport bought of Robert Carr a house and lot of about 4 acres lying in Newport and bounded

East: Captian Harding

West: Mr. Lenthal

North: the street

South: Mr. Smith's land

Then on the same page, immediately following, is the statement that on 8 May 1647 Robert Hubbs bought of the said Caleb the house and land above described.



## A LOST WOMAN DIGGED OUT OF OBLIVION

*an Arnold-Sheffield problem*

by KATHARINE U. WATERMAN\*

PERSONS wishing to join any of the numerous patriotic societies are required to prove their eligibility by references from authentic printed records or by certified copies of other sorts of evidence. Family genealogies are often the most easily available source of printed records and are usually accepted at face value in spite of the fact that many compilers of these books have not been sufficiently careful in selecting material which they present as fact.

\*Mrs. Waterman, a member of the Rhode Island Historical Society, is the author of *Nicholas Utter of Westerly, Rhode Island, and a Few of His Descendants* (Westerly, 1941).

A case in point is to be found in *The Arnold Memorial* . . . compiled by Elisha Stephen Arnold (Rutland, Tuttle, 1935) dealing with the families of William<sup>1</sup> Arnold of Providence and his sons, Benedict<sup>2</sup> and Stephen<sup>2</sup>. I have noticed several errors in the account of the Dr. Caleb<sup>3</sup> (Benedict<sup>2</sup>, William<sup>1</sup>) branch. In one case the author gives the same husband and children to two women of similar name but quite different ancestry. In Arnold's *Vital Record of Rhode Island, 1636-1850* of both North Kingstown and East Greenwich is recorded the marriage of Anna (Anne or Ann) Arnold to Micah Whitmarsh, the two records differing slightly in detail but referring to the same couple. The births of five children with dates are given in each case.

The author of *The Arnold Memorial* has made Anna (Arnold) Whitmarsh in one record a descendant of Benedict<sup>2</sup> Arnold (p. 136) and in another a descendant of Stephen<sup>2</sup> Arnold (p. 167), although it is obvious that Micah Whitmarsh could not have had the same set of children on the same dates by two different wives. There is proof that Anna was a descendant of Benedict<sup>2</sup> Arnold and not of Stephen<sup>2</sup> Arnold.

In another case the author of *The Arnold Memorial* confuses three Samuel Arnolds. No record of the marriage of Samuel<sup>4</sup> (Caleb<sup>3</sup>, Benedict<sup>2</sup>, William<sup>1</sup>) Arnold has so far been produced, but it is easy to disprove the statements in *The Arnold Memorial* that he (Samuel<sup>4</sup>) married Mary George on Block Island in 1706 and had some ten children, whom the author names.<sup>a</sup> Nearly all of the names and dates occur in Arnold's *Vital Record*, but the family connections are largely assumptions of the author. *The Arnold Memorial* calls Samuel Arnold a grandson of Samuel Wilbur,<sup>b</sup> which fixes his identity as the Samuel<sup>4</sup> Arnold, son of Caleb<sup>3</sup> and Abigail (Wilbur) Arnold (p. 72) mentioned in land records as of Portsmouth in 1699, of Kingstown in 1710, and of North Kingstown in 1725. There is no evidence that he was ever of Block Island.

Block Island records do, however, have a Samuel Arnold, who married "Susannah George, the second child of Samuel George, of Peter George," May 17, 1706. Arnold's *Vital Record* has copied *Susannah* as *Mary* according to a letter from the late George R. Burgess, an authority on Rhode Island records, dated February 22,

<sup>a</sup>*The Arnold Memorial*, p. 90.

<sup>b</sup>*Idem*.

1927. According to the letter, "Mary George, elder daughter of Samuel of Peter," married July 5, 1703, Joseph Mitchell of Block Island. Arnold's *Vital Record* has this marriage copied correctly. Mr. Burgess further wrote that Samuel and Susannah Arnold had a daughter, Mary, born April 7, 1708, and that Samuel Arnold died in a delirium on the night of August 2, 1717, intestate. His widow, Susannah, petitioned that a Rathbun be appointed administrator. The inventory is in the second record book of New Shoreham. There was no other possible Mary George on Block Island.

The above facts from Block Island records prove that the Block Island Samuel Arnold who died in 1717 was not identical with Samuel<sup>4</sup> Arnold, a grandson of Samuel Wilbur, who was living in North Kingstown in 1725. Incidentally, the land records show this Samuel Arnold still alive after 1750. Various members of the Arnold family with whom I have talked in the past seemed to think that his wife was named Mary, but I have never seen a public record to that effect. The only book prior to *The Arnold Memorial* where I have found mention of the family of Samuel<sup>4</sup> Arnold is the *History and Genealogy of the Ancestors and Some of the Descendants of Stukely Westcott* . . . by Roscoe L. Whitman, published in 1932. Since Benedict<sup>2</sup> Arnold married Damaris Westcott, daughter of Stukely, a section of the Westcott genealogy (p. 127-140) is devoted to the Arnold family. On p. 133 it says, "Samuel Arnold, m. and had issue: Joseph, Caleb, Mary. . . Mary Arnold, d-1726, unmarried."

The probable identity of the wife of Samuel<sup>4</sup> Arnold will be discussed below, but the list of children given in *The Arnold Memorial* should be corrected first, for it could easily lead a genealogist into difficulties. The well-known genealogist, George Andrews Moriarty, has in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, v. 82, 83, 85, and 86, a series of articles entitled "Early Settlers of Block Island," which gives a full account of the marriages, children, and husbands of the two daughters of Samuel George: Joseph Mitchell, Samuel Arnold, and Thomas Payne. Payne was the second husband of the widow Susannah Arnold. Moriarty calls Samuel Arnold "a trader at Block Island from Greenwich or Stamford, Connecticut," and lists the children of Samuel and Susannah (George) Arnold, "viz., Mary, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Rebecca."<sup>c</sup> This list may be

<sup>c</sup>*Register*, v. 83, p. 87, footnote.

found in Arnold's *Vital Record*, but Moriarty states that he found his material in Block Island records and that he discovered many errors in Arnold's *Vital Record* and Austin's *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island*.

*The Arnold Memorial* lists the children of Samuel Arnold as follows: My notations on each child are enclosed in brackets.

MARY, b. Apr. 7, 1708, on Block Island; d. unm. [Mary, b. Apr. 7, 1708, was the daughter of Samuel and Susannah (George) Arnold of Block Island.]

ELIZABETH, b. Nov. 6, (—); m. Josiah Utter, May 27, 1736, at New Shoreham. [The Elizabeth who married Josiah Utter in 1736, was the daughter of Samuel and Susannah (George) Arnold, but her birth date is unknown. The Elizabeth born Nov. 6 was the daughter of Samuel<sup>6</sup> (Joseph<sup>5</sup>, Samuel<sup>4</sup>) Arnold and his wife, Mary Nichols, who are buried in an old Arnold Burial Ground near Slocum Dry Bridge in North Kingstown.]<sup>d</sup>

ALICE, b. Apr. 13, (—). [She was the daughter of Samuel<sup>6</sup> and his wife Mary (Nichols) Arnold.]

SUSANNAH, b. Jan. 3; m. Thomas Paine at New Shoreham in 1723. [Susannah, born January 3, was the daughter of Samuel<sup>6</sup> and Mary (Nichols) Arnold. The Susannah who married Thomas Paine at New Shoreham in 1723 was the widow of Samuel<sup>4</sup>, not his daughter.]

JOSEPH, b. Sept. 16, 1712. [The Joseph b. Sept. 16, 1712, was the son of Samuel<sup>6</sup> and his wife Mary (Nichols) Arnold. The birth date of Joseph, son of Samuel<sup>4</sup>, and his unknown wife is not known.]

JONATHAN, b. Aug. 6, (—). [He was the son of Samuel<sup>6</sup> and Mary (Nichols) Arnold.]

PENELOPE. [There is no reason for the presence of a Penelope in this list. Samuel<sup>4</sup> had an aunt, a sister, and a niece by that name.]

CALEB. [He was the son of Samuel<sup>4</sup> and his unknown wife.]

SARAH, probably married Feb. 12, 1728/9, William Dickens at New Shoreham, and had

Thomas, b. May 12, 1731

Arnold, b. May 19, 1735.

[Sarah who married William Dickens was the daughter of Samuel and Susannah (George) Arnold.]

<sup>d</sup>Arnold's *Vital Record*, North Kingstown, v. 5, p. 55, lists the children of Samuel and Mary Arnold, recorded March 17, 1779, as Elizabeth, Alice, Susannah, Joseph, and Jonathan Nichols. The year of birth in every instance is omitted, but the day and month agree with those in *The Arnold Memorial*. The compiler must have taken every thing he found in Arnold's *Vital Record* under Samuel and Mary and also the list in the *Descendants of Stukely Westcott*.



Although Samuel<sup>4</sup> Arnold's wife could not have been Mary or even Susannah George of Block Island and the list of children given as his in *The Arnold Memorial* is a mixture of errors, he was certainly lawfully married, for his son, Joseph<sup>5</sup>, willed<sup>e</sup> to three of his (Joseph's) sons some land in Portsmouth,<sup>f</sup> which by Caleb's<sup>3</sup> will could go only to heirs of Samuel lawfully begotten.<sup>g</sup>

The *Descendants of Stukely Westcott* account of the Samuel<sup>4</sup> family is probably correct except that by family report his daughter Mary died in 1776 about the same time as her brother Joseph. If any Mary died in 1726, it was perhaps Samuel's wife. However, 1726 may be simply a clerical error for 1776. The land records prove that Samuel<sup>4</sup> Arnold had two sons to whom he gave land that he had received from his father Caleb<sup>3</sup>: to son Joseph 50 acres part of home farm in North Kingstown on October 26, 1733,<sup>h</sup> and to son Caleb some adjoining land on March 9, 1737/8.<sup>i</sup>

Exeter was set off from North Kingstown March 8, 1742/3, and the dividing line ran through the Arnold land. Samuel Arnold gave to son Caleb 51 acres partly in Exeter and partly in North Kingstown on February 25, 1750.<sup>j</sup>

Caleb Arnold of Exeter and his wife Hannah sold to Joseph Arnold of Exeter 115 acres butted on the north by land of Samuel Arnold, his father, on March 25, 1752.<sup>k</sup> Caleb and Hannah had previously bought 15 acres of Joseph and Elizabeth Northup;<sup>l</sup> so Caleb<sup>5</sup> had probably received 100 acres all told from his father, Samuel<sup>4</sup>, who apparently was alive in 1752. His wife was probably dead when he made the gifts of land, as she did not sign the deeds, a usual procedure.

Her children's names are presumptive evidence that her parents were Joseph and Mary. Her son Caleb<sup>5</sup> was plainly named for Samuel's<sup>4</sup> father, Dr. Caleb Arnold, but Samuel's mother's name was Abigail not Mary.

Further, her son Joseph<sup>3</sup>, named one of his sons Edmund, a comparatively unusual name and one not appearing earlier in the Arnold family; and both Joseph<sup>5</sup> and Caleb<sup>5</sup> had grandsons named Sheffield.

<sup>e</sup>Joseph's<sup>5</sup> will proved Oct. 2, 1776, North Kingstown Probate, v. 10, p. 188.

<sup>f</sup>Portsmouth Land Evidence, Bk. 7, p. 76-77, quitclaim and sale of land.

<sup>g</sup>Caleb's<sup>3</sup> will proved Mar. 9, 1719. Portsmouth T. C. Rec., v. 2, p. 162.

<sup>h</sup>North Kingstown Land Evidences, 8B, p. 79.

<sup>i</sup>*Ibid.*, 8A, p. 130.

<sup>j</sup>Exeter Land Evidences, 6, p. 97.

<sup>k</sup>*Ibid.*, 10, p. 297.

<sup>l</sup>North Kingstown Land Evidences, 10A, p. 113.

These names suggest a connection with an Edmund Sheffield, who is recorded as an abutting owner in the description of land given by Samuel<sup>4</sup> to Caleb<sup>5</sup>.<sup>m</sup>

One cannot escape the implication that Samuel<sup>4</sup> Arnold married Mary Sheffield, daughter of Joseph and Mary Sheffield, and sister of Edmund Sheffield, especially as such a family appears in Austin's *Genealogical Dictionary*, p. 175.

This Sheffield family was of Newport, and Joseph's will was proved February 18, 1706. He left his North Kingstown land to his sons, Benjamin, Edmund, and William. He mentioned two unmarried daughters, Mary and Elizabeth. The land records show that Edmund Sheffield lived for a time in North Kingstown, later in South Kingstown, and finally on Block Island.

Some of his family eventually returned to Newport, and George Andrews Moriarty, previously mentioned, is a descendant. He says that the marriages of Joseph Sheffield's daughters were not put on record, but that he has proved that Elizabeth married October 17, 1777, Joseph Wait of North Kingstown, "where her brothers settled."<sup>n</sup> Mr. Moriarty wrote me that he has never been able to find anything about Mary.

However, the late Gilbert L. H. Arnold of Stamford, Connecticut, a descendant of Joseph<sup>5</sup>, son of Edmund<sup>6</sup>, had a son Edmund Sheffield Arnold, Yale, 1920. Gilbert Arnold wrote me in 1928 that although he could not "put his hand on" the marriage of Samuel<sup>4</sup> Arnold and Mary Sheffield, he "knew for sure" that she belonged to the Joseph Sheffield family. He sent two typed pages of descent, one for the Arnolds and one for the Sheffields. His father, Alfred C. Arnold, could remember "the two Edmunds" and Gilbert had added an occasional item to his father's notes. His first typed page begins with Roger Arnold, "first to use the surname" and continues to himself and family. I quote in part:

1. William, the immigrant.
2. Benedict, first governor of Rhode Island.
3. Dr. Caleb, b. December 19, 1644, at Providence; d. February 9, 1719, at Newport; m. June 10, 1666, Abigail, dau. of Capt. Samuel Wilbur; Capt., 1676; Deputy, 1684; a practicing physician in Newport.

<sup>m</sup>*Ibid.*, 8A, p. 130.

<sup>n</sup>*R. I. Hist. Soc. Collections*, v. 21, Oct., 1928, p. 132.

# RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FIFTY-TWO POWER STREET



PROVIDENCE 6, RHODE ISLAND

I hereby apply for membership in the RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
and enclose . . . . . dollars in payment of . . . . . dues.

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Name . . . . .

Address . . . . .

Proposed by . . . . .



4. Dr. Samuel, of North Kingstown, b. —; d. —; m. 1708, Mary Sheffield, dau. of Joseph of Newport. Mary was b. Nov. 8, 1687.
5. Deacon Joseph, of Exeter, b. September 16, 1710; d. August 29, 1776, of camp fever while visiting his sons in camp with his sister Mary; m. (1) November 23, 1732, Patience Gifford, dau. of Yelverton; she had two children: Abigail, b. 1733, and Josiah, b. 1735; she d. 1736; m. (2) August, 1737, Hannah Gifford, sister of Patience; 14 children.
6. Edmund, son of Deacon Joseph and his second wife, Hannah, b. December 8, 1757; d. March 9, 1843; m. (1) April 20, 1777, Abigail Himes, dau. of George; she had Edmund, Jr., b. 1778, Polly and John July 13, 1780; m. (2) Eleanor Brown, dau. of Charles and granddaughter of Beriah; she had Charles, Mercy, Joseph, Abigail, Samuel, Dorcas, Hannah, and Sheffield. He served in the Revolution.
7. Edmund, Jr., b. 1778; d. August 31, 1845; m. 1798 or 1799, Susannah Allen, dau. of Nathan and Mary (Reynolds) Allen of North Kingstown; their children were Nathan Allen, Susan, Thomas, Benjamin, Andrew, Abigail, William Stephen, Samuel, Phoebe and Mary.
8. William Stephen, b. November 1, 1814, Swamptown, North Kingstown; buried in Allentown, North Kingstown. His oldest son was Alfred C. (1836-1918) who went to Stamford, Connecticut.
9. Alfred C.
10. Gilbert L. H.

The families of William Stephen, Alfred C., and Gilbert L. H. are given in detail but omitted here as not having bearing on the Samuel<sup>4</sup> Arnold question.

Gilbert Arnold's second paper on the Sheffields begins with Edmund Sheffield of Sudbury, England, and continues to Mary, born Nov., 1687, who married in 1708 Dr. Samuel Arnold of North Kingstown and had Joseph, Caleb, and Mary. She is shown as the daughter of Joseph and Mary Sheffield of Newport, whose children, as named in Joseph's will, were Joseph, 1685; Mary, 1687; Elizabeth, 1688; Benjamin, 1691; Edmund, 1694; William, 1696; Elizabeth, 1698. Mary was left a featherbed and  $\frac{1}{6}$  of 20 sheep.

It should be added that my conclusion that Samuel<sup>4</sup> Arnold married Mary Sheffield was entirely the result of my study of the original town records on the spot. My talk and correspondence with other members of the family corroborated my findings and added interesting family details.



Oil by Thomas Thompson (23" by 40")

**PROVIDENCE HARBOR FROM FORT HILL**

Hung at National Academy of Design, New York City, 1844

This painting is for sale, and it is hoped that it may be kept in Rhode Island, either as the property of an individual or of the Rhode Island Historical Society.

## THE NEWPORT TOWER MYSTERY

by HJALMAR R. HOLAND

[concluded from April, 1953, v. 12, no. 2, p. 62]

### *The Tower as a Fortification*

The immediate purpose of the builders of the Tower was to provide a safe shelter for the members of the expedition. While their relations with the natives may have been friendly, they could not be sure that this would continue, and it was prudent to provide for safety. There are many details in the construction of the Tower which show all possible provisions for safety. There is a doorway which is only thirty inches square and could be entered only by crawling; moreover, it is thirteen feet above the ground. There are also the two small double-splayed windows and four loopholes for shooting at the enemy without being seen.

Most important of all was the floor above the arches, which, if constructed of wood, would be a death trap: the natives, if hostile, could rush in through the arcades carrying brush and thus set fire to the floor. But a precaution against that was provided. The top of the floor above the arches was immediately at the base of the fireplace, or about 12' 4" above the base of the pillars. But the timbers which carried this floor rested in sockets about 8' 6" above the bases. This floor construction therefore took up almost four feet of vertical space. This was to provide a floor of clay or cement thick enough to make the building fireproof. We find the same construction in the fortified round churches of Swéden.<sup>9</sup> As even a small cannon would be sufficient to shatter the Tower, this implies that it was built before 1400, when cannon came into use.

In the round fortified churches in southern Sweden we see the final step in the evolution of the Cistercian lavabo to a fortified habitation in a church, such as we have in the Newport Tower. Because of internal disturbance by lawless political bands, it became necessary to provide community centers of defense capable of resisting attacks by small arms. The round stone churches were best adapted for this, and upstairs floors were provided with household equipment so people could eat and sleep there while the marauders were in the district. There still remain about twenty of these fortified churches, and we find in them the same splayed windows with 4"

<sup>9</sup>Hugo Frölen, *Nordens Befästa Rund-Kyrkor*, II, 47, 54, 56, 67, 69, 75, 83, 89.

x 4" window frames as we find in the Newport Tower.<sup>10</sup> We also find the same three-foot concrete floor above the arches; the same peculiar arch above the doorway, the arch on the inside being much higher than the top of the rectangular opening on the outside. In these churches "the stairway is always placed in the north circle of the building," the entrance is always high up on the southwestern side,<sup>11</sup> and we find the same type of loopholes, all of which we find in the Newport Tower. There is, in fact, such close similarity that the late Dr. Frölen, who was an eminent specialist in this field, says: "The Newport Tower has undoubtedly been *the inner rotunda of a carefully built round church*."<sup>12</sup> The construction of these fortified churches began about 1175.

#### *The Tower as a Watch Tower*

Another important purpose in building the Tower was to have a watch tower or beacon, because this purpose dictated the location of the structure. The door opening looks southwest upon the inner harbor and the entrance to it; and the windows, one to the south and the other to the east, look out upon the ocean. This indifference toward the north, where the natives would come from, if unfriendly, and this constant survey of the sea, indicate that the occupants were not troubled with fear, but were concerned about the safety of friends out on the sea. The Tower served not only as a watch tower, but also as a beacon to mark the site of the camp for those that were expected. That seems to be the only reason for building it on this exposed spot and for covering it with a stucco of shining white, which could be seen from far out at sea.

Only one lone argument has been cited in support of the theory that the Tower was built by the English colonists. William S. Godfrey, Jr., who made excavation beneath the Tower in 1948 and 1949, claims he found, in undisturbed soil, some small objects which he thinks are colonial.<sup>13</sup>

If the soil beneath the Tower had remained undisturbed since the Tower was built, these finds would have been important, but

<sup>10</sup>*Ibid.*, *passim*. See also F. Uldall in *Aarbøger for Nordisk Oldk IX*, 235-237; V. Koch in same publication, XIII, 59-68.

<sup>11</sup>Frölen, I, 76-77.

<sup>12</sup>*Ibid.* 42.

<sup>13</sup>*Archaeology*, 1949, pp. 146-149; 1950, pp. 82-86.



it has been dug up many times. We have the report of Governor Gibbs, the one-time owner of the Tower, that his men some time before 1848 dug down to the bottom of the foundation of one of the columns, and the small objects may have been left by them. Furthermore, Godfrey in his report says he found at least five previous excavations. There is no telling how many more have been made, because he says that it was not always possible to tell if the soil had been disturbed. In a report delivered September 24, 1948 to the Preservation Society of Newport County, he writes:

. . . . We found at least five previous excavations, and their relationship is of great importance to the present central problem. The earliest of these pits, the hardest to identify, and the only one of major importance is the *annular* trench which was dug to receive the bases of the eight columns. Unlike the other excavations (made by treasure hunters) which were refilled with material other than that which was removed, this original trench was filled with the same yellow clay which had been dug out, and this clay blended with the natural clay of the area.

It is therefore possible that other trenches, excavated by Godfrey in 1949, had been excavated and refilled by earlier diggers in the same logical way so as to make it impossible to determine if it had been disturbed. This he also mentions in a letter to me dated January 22, 1949, wherein he again writes:

The limits of the trench were exceedingly hard to define; we could only be sure of its extent to any degree of certainty because of finds of fragments of plaster which had been included in the material with which the trench had been refilled.

In other words, the soil in the refill blended so completely with the undisturbed soil that, except for the occasional presence of plaster fragments, it showed no line of demarcation.

However, toward the end of his excavation he was cheered by making some finds which he thinks are important. These were at the base of the east column. He writes: "The fill of the construction trench . . . could be easily distinguished from the undisturbed soil, and here under the refilled material of the trench, we uncovered a definite trace of a square-heeled boot! Crusoe was no more astounded."

Apparently Godfrey thinks that this square-heeled boot mark is sure proof of the colonial origin of the Tower. But since shoes with heels and buckles were in use in the time of Edward II (1284-

1327), that proves nothing.<sup>14</sup>

At or rather under this east column, he made another find which, he thinks, clinches the case for the colonial origin of the Tower. Eighteen inches within the column he found a small fragment of a clay pipe. It was found at the bottom of the mortared base of the column at the end of a horizontal cavity almost a foot wide and more than eighteen inches long. He therefore thinks that this pipe fragment was dropped on the foundation before the column was built. This would be proof that the tower was built by a seventeenth century smoker of clay pipes.

Fortunately Godfrey has given us a photograph of the base of this column and the big cavity under the column where he found the fragment. We see the construction of the column just as it supposedly was when the builders left it. Now it is plain that the lower stones do not lie in their original position. It is recognized by all that the men who built the Tower were exceptionally careful masons. It has stood for hundreds of years, and there is not the slightest crack in it. This could only be accomplished by placing each stone carefully and firmly.

But see the photograph! The bottom stones of the pillar do not fit at all, and no mason would be guilty of such poor work. Godfrey says the mortar had "disintegrated," and he was thus able to stick his hand in to the very center of the columns. But lime does not disintegrate when it is well protected from the elements. The *disintegration* in this case was caused by the crowbar of some treasure hunter, who, having failed to find the treasure in the loose soil, conceived the idea that it was hidden in the base of a pier. In excavating an area so completely uprooted and disemboweled as was the ground beneath the Tower it is not safe to make any important conclusions about the age of any small find.

#### *Who Built the Tower?*

There are not many even remote possibilities. It has been suggested that the Dutch may have built it, but it is not likely that they would go to the great labor of building a stone tower in a region belonging to another Power and which they could not defend, as it was two hundred miles from their headquarters on Manhattan Island. Furthermore, the Dutch colonists were so poor that

<sup>14</sup>*Encyclopedia Americana*, IV, 255.

thirty years passed by before they attempted to put up any buildings of stone. Finally, their foot unit was even shorter than the English being only 11.14 English inches long.

### *The Portuguese Theory*

Recently the theory has been advanced that the Tower was built by the Portuguese in 1511.<sup>15</sup> In 1502 Miguel Corte Real set out to search for his brother, Gaspar, who had not returned from his last voyage to the lands around the Gulf of St. Lawrence in 1501. Miguel was also lost, but Professor Delabarre believes he has found an inscription on the Dighton Rock, near Taunton, Mass., which reads: "Miguel Cortereal V (oluntate) Dei hic Dux Ind(orum)." Some distance off to the left he also finds the year "1511."<sup>16</sup>

This is a very slender thread on which to hang a heavy claim. The trouble is that the Dighton inscription is such a jumble of marks that anyone with a little imagination can read anything he wishes in it. In 1690, when the oldest marks were much clearer and only a fraction in number compared to the present, it was studied by Cotton Mather who believed they were Indian pictographs. Ninety years later the inscription was studied by the Frenchman, Court de Gebelin, who asserted it was a Phoenician inscription and *translated* it all. He was hailed as a great scholar and publicly supported by Ezra Stiles, the eminent president of Yale University, who solemnly announced that the inscription was 3000 years old. But in 1837 Professors C. C. Rafn and Finn Magnussen, two Danish scholars of the highest rank, declared the signs were runic letters which they *translated* and asserted that they referred to the expedition of Thorfin Karlsevní in 1008. This was received with even greater acclaim, although we thus suddenly lost 2000 years of history. Now, more than a hundred years later, and after the alleged Miguel inscription had been scoured by water and wave action for 450 years (it is entirely covered by water at low tide), comes Delabarre with a new theory, which is likewise acclaimed by a new generation who have never heard about the Phoenician and Danish experts. A conservative critic will say that none of these theories are demonstrable except possibly the first — that the signs are Indian pictographs.

<sup>15</sup> Herbert Pell, *Rhode Island History*, October, 1948, p. 105.

<sup>16</sup> Edmund B. Delabarre, *Dighton Rock*, New York, 1928.

Even if Miguel Corte Real survived the loss of his vessel and nine years later inscribed his name on the Dighton Rock, this is no proof that he built the Newport Tower. According to Mr. Pell, Miguel and his men were without tools of any kind when they were shipwrecked, and therefore could not build a tower of wood. But the problem is not as simple as that. The Tower could not have been built without tools, especially axes and saws, because there are several thousand feet of lumber and timber work in the Tower: the roof, including rafters and roof boards; the stairway; the frames needed in building the eight arches and the fireplace; the four by fours used in making window frames; the six heavy timbers that carried the two floors, the joists across these timbers, and the planks which served as floor boards. Impressions left in the mortar of the ledges within the Tower show that these planks were about sixteen inches wide.<sup>17</sup> Furthermore, there are no Portuguese prototypes of the Tower, and the measurements do not conform to any Portuguese unit.

The gist of the above evidence is that Newport Tower was built some time between 1175 and 1400. The builders were a religious group accompanied by a priest. They, or at least, the master builder, were familiar with the details of the old fortified churches of Sweden. They spent a long time here because, if they had no draft animals, which was not likely, it would take more than a year to gather together at least 500 tons of stone, sand, and lime, besides several thousand feet of timber and lumber, and then painstakingly construct it. Was there any such expedition in America in that period?

#### *The Identity of the Builders*

Yes, there was one expedition in America at that time, and it is a perfect fit. This was the royal expedition sent out in 1355 by Magnus Erikson, King of Norway and Sweden, to find a large group of Greenlanders who were reported to have given up the Christian faith and emigrated to America. As this was a mission to restore a group of apostates to the Church, it was a religious expedition and counted one or more priests. The King instructed the commander to select some of his men from the Royal Bodyguard, and as these squires were mostly from West Gothland, the King's favored province, it is likely that some of them were familiar with the fortified

<sup>17</sup>Means, *op. cit.*, pp. 13-14.

round churches in that part of Sweden. It is reasonable that the expedition upon leaving Greenland would sail to that part of America which was reported to be the best, namely Vinland, the region on the south shore of New England. Here the commander would seek the best harbor to be found for his headquarters, because it might take him a long time to find the people he was seeking, and there was none better than the harbor at Newport. We have an allusion to this camp in the first sentence of the Kensington inscription, dated 1362, which says: "We are 8 Goths and 22 Norwegians on an exploring expedition from Vinland." They did not say that they came from Sweden or Norway: Vinland had been their home for several years, and thither they hoped to return.

It is likely that this long stay would give opportunity for some intimate associations between the sportive members of the King's Bodyguard and the Indian damsels. This would account for the light complexions noted by Verrazzano, who in 1524 spent fifteen days with the Narragansetts. He says:

This is the most beautiful people and the most civilized in customs that we have found in this navigation. They excel us in size; they are of bronze color, some inclining more to whiteness, others to tawny color; Their face sharply cut; . . . the bearing kind and gentle, imitating much the ancient manner. . . . Their women were of the same beauty and charm, very graceful of comely mien and agreeable aspect.

This association would explain the strange presence among the Narragansetts of a characteristic Norse name. In 1676 at the close of King Phillip's war, a squaw-sachem of the Narragansetts named *Magnus* was captured and put to death by the English.<sup>18</sup>

Where did these Indians get that name? It has no meaning in the Algonquian language, and it does not occur among the several hundred English names that we have found in the Colonial period. The only reasonable inference is that it goes back to the Norsemen who spent the years from 1356 to 1364 among the Narragansetts, and Magnus was the name of the King who had sent out this expedition. If the intercourse between the Norsemen and the Indian maids resulted in children, it is safe to assume that the Norsemen, being good Catholics on a religious mission, would not suffer their own offspring to run the risk of eternal damnation by neglecting its baptism. The child would be given a Christian name, and the likeliest name of all would be Magnus, the name of their King. The Indians, too, would have great respect for this name when told that it was the name of the great Sachem of the white people, and it would be passed on to succeeding generations.

<sup>18</sup>Samuel G. Drake, *The Aborigines of North America*, 15th ed. 1860, p. 134.

## BLOCK ISLAND CEMETERY RECORDS

copied and arranged by

MRS. HELEN WINSLOW MANSFIELD

### *Old Cemetery*

ALLEN (Tomb at cemetery erected by Charles Allen, 1895)

Amanuel Allen, Aug. 5, 1849—June 12, 1938.

Waity Sprague, his wife, Apr. 15, 1852—Mar. 5, 1915.

Sarah M. Allen, June 15, 1882.

Inez L. Allen, May 7, 1884.

Abel E. Allen, Sept. 29, 1888.

Amanuel Allen, Jr., Aug. 27, 1890—Oct. 13, 1918.

Lemainard Allen, Sept. 3, 1879—Jan. 6, 1881.

Carl E. Allen, Feb. 24, 1892—Apr. 25, 1893.

Atmore W. Allen, 1851—1919.

Emma A. Ball, his wife, 1853—1940.

Charles E. Allen, Sept. 7, 1849—July 25, 1921.

Charles Allen, died Nov. 27, 1915, in Providence.

Infant son of Charles and Susan Allen, born July 25, 1876; died Aug. 1, 1876.

Elmer A. Allen, 1879—1939.

Ethel P. Allen, 1883—1943.

Infant daughter of G. Frank and E. Gertrude Allen, died Mar. 14, 1903.

Horatio W. Allen, 1849—1929.

Charlotte M., his wife, 1851—1924.

Lula A., daughter of Horatio W. and Charlotte M. Allen, born June 8, 1880; died Aug. 29, 1880.

Jeremiah Allen, born Aug. 30, 1813; died Aug. 5, 1877.

Jeremiah B. Allen, born Jan. 19, 1868—1932 (World War Flag).

Rosie G. Sprague, his wife, Feb. 7, 1870.

John P. Allen, 1851—1930 (on John Littlefield stone).

Lovina M., his wife, 1859—1939.

John Allen, born March 22, 1805; died May 20, 1881.

Mary A. Allen, Aug. 25, 1840—Apr. 20, 1912, 2nd wife of Samuel Allen.

Peleg P. Allen, Oct. 6, 1853.

Lewellen Steadman, his wife, Oct. 25, 1856—Jan. 29, 1913.

- William Allen, Oct. 22, 1828—Sept. 4, 1909.  
Lydia A. Rose, his wife, Jan. 22, 1833—Dec. 30, 1914.  
Infant son of William C. and Lydia A. Allen, born and died Sept. 18, 1850.  
Tormut L. R., son of William and Lydia A. Allen, died May 14, 1898, ae. 39 yrs., 6 mos., 3 days.  
William Crook Allen, 1854—1935.  
Ellen Annabel Allen, 1870—1931.  
Infant son of William C. and Annabel Allen, born and died Mar. 22, 1892.

**ALVES**

- Bertie Alves, May 31, 1886.  
Margaret Etta, his wife, Jan. 11, 1885—Feb. 24, 1922.  
Joseph Alves, died Dec. 11, 1907, ae. 64 yrs.  
Mercy Lucretia, his wife, died May 15, 1909, ae. 52 yrs.

**ANDERSON**

- Albert L. Anderson, 1871—1943.  
Anna Karlson, his wife, 1876—  
Mother Anna M. Anderson, 1876—1943.  
Charles Warren Anderson, died Feb. 1, 1904, ae. 8 mos.

**ARNOLD**

- W. Annie Rose, wife of Lucian Arnold, died May 4, 1884, in 46th yr. in Providence.

**BABCOCK**

- Simeon B. Babcock, 1846—1906.  
Sally, his wife, 1852—1931.

**BAKER**

- Charles A. Baker, 1876—1936.  
Jennie D. Baker, his wife, 1877—1946.

**BALL**

- Father Abel Ball, born Sept. 17, 1805; died Dec. 18, 1852.  
Mother Martha, wife of Abel Ball, born May 20, 1813; died May 1, 1879.  
Brother Amos D. Ball, born Oct. 31, 1846; died Jan. 20, 1901.  
Bartlett Ball, died Oct. 22, 1861, in 46th yr. of his age.  
Lucinda P., wife of Bartlett Ball, born Sept. 12, 1826; died Mar. 21, 1894.

## BALL

- Cassius Clay Ball, born Nov. 15, 1854; died Aug. 29, 1925.  
Lucretia Mott Ball, wife of Cassius C. Ball, born Nov. 19, 1866;  
died Mar. 11, 1941.  
Alice O., wife of Cassius C. Ball and daughter of William P. Lewis,  
born Oct. 5, 1854; died Sept. 16, 1884.  
Charles Ball, June 22, 1847—June 28, 1911.  
Charles M. Ball, 1882.  
Lena M., his wife, 1891.  
Noyes Ball, 1845—1925.  
Annie R. Ball, his wife, 1865—1893.  
Annie R. Ball, wife of Noyes Ball, born June 8, 1865; died Feb.  
26, 1893.  
Charles H. Ball, died Feb. 12, 1887, ac. 10 yrs., 5 mos.  
Dorcas Ball, died Aug. 11, 1816, in 58th yr. of her age.  
Edward Ball, 1640—1714, born in England, came to Block Island  
1665, Freeman 1678, Trustee Harbor Fund 1696, Deputy War-  
den 1702, Sheriff 1704.  
Mary, his wife, 1645—1714, daughter of Peter and Mary George.  
Erected by Nicholas Ball, 1895.  
In memory of Mr. Edward Ball, died June 17, 1796.  
A kind husband, tender father, affectionate friend  
and well beloved by all his acquaintances  
as you pass by pray cast an eye  
as you are now, so once was I  
as I am now so must you be  
prepare for death and follow me.  
Sarah, daughter of Edward and Mary Ball, died Dec. ye 23, 1747,  
ac. 1 yr., 1 mo.  
Edward G. Ball, July 4, 1829—July 29, 1906.  
Lavina J. Ball, Oct. 13, 1834—Mar. 4, 1931.  
Edward Ball, 1859—1937.  
Sarah R. Dewey, his wife, 1866.  
Dora A., of Edward and Sarah Ball, died Oct. 23, 1890, ac. 9 mos.,  
23 da.  
Edmund Ball, son of Peter Ball, July 16, 1864, in 85th yr.  
Charity, wife of Edmund Ball, died Sept. 10, 1829, in 42nd yr.  
of age.  
Mercy, wife of Edmund Ball, died Jan. 8, 1856, ac. 64 yrs.  
Eugene Ball, June 3, 1867—Jan. 30, 1939.  
Elsie Redfern, his wife, Feb. 8, 1892.  
George R. Smith, her 2nd husband, Apr. 25, 1892.



Frederick Ball, of George M. and Abigail Ball, Nov. 7, 1821, ae. 16 yrs., 5 mos.

Father George H. Ball, May 9, 1842—Aug. 16, 1875.

Mother Nancy Ball, wife of George Ball, July 12, 1841—Aug. 31, 1892.

George A. Ball, died 1863, ae. 17 yrs.  
Young friend, regard this solemn thing;  
Soon you must, like me, in youth,  
Debt is the debt to nature due,  
Which I have paid and so must you.

Gideon D. Ball, died Dec. 23, 1850, in 55th yr. of age.

Lydia S., wife of Gideon Ball, died Oct. 28, 1891, in 93rd yr.

Charlotte S., daughter of Gideon and Lydia Ball, Apr. 8, 1836—  
Nov. 19, 1901.

Hamilton M. Ball, 1849—1933.

Patience B. Dodge, his wife, 1841—1883.

Phebe M. Chase, his wife, 1855—1937.

Lawrence T. Ball, 1888—1945.

Elizabeth J. Tingley, his wife, 1889.

Capt. Hiram D. Ball, died Dec. 30, 1891, in 73rd yr.

Eliza Catherine Ball, died Apr. 15, 1845, ae. 19 yrs.

Mary Ann Ball, died Apr. 14, 1909, ae. 76 yrs.

Adrietta P. Ball, daughter of Hiram D. Ball, July 4, 1858—Nov.  
2, 1900.

Noah D. Ball, son of Hiram D. Ball, died Aug. 10, 1863, ae. 18 yrs.,  
4 mos.

Hiram Ansel Ball, 1851—1926.

Cordelia Lewis, his wife, 1853—1944.

Isaiah Ball, died 1850, ae. 84 yrs.

Margaret P. Ball, his wife, died Dec., 1851, ae. 84 yrs.

Jesse Ball, born July 25, 1818; died Jan. 22, 1892.

Abby L., wife of Jesse Ball, born June 28, 1819; died Feb. 5, 1910.

Frances Badoura, daughter of Jesse and Abby L. Ball, died May 20,  
1866, ae. 18 yrs., 5 mos., 8 da.

Bathsheba Dodge, daughter of Jesse and Abby L. Ball, died May  
26, 1816, ae. 10 yrs. and 7 da.

Edward Hull, son of Jesse and Abby L. Ball, died Sept. 11, 1855,  
ae. 2 yrs., 8 mos., and 9 da.

John Ball, 1687—1769, of Edward Ball; 1st married, 1718.

Sarah Dickens, born 1696, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Dickens.

Erected by Nicholas Ball, 1895.

**BALL**

John Ball, died Jan. 24, 1886, ae. 76 yrs.

John S. Ball, died Aug. 28, 1885, ae. 85 yrs.

Phebe, wife of John S. Ball, died July 12, 1880, ae. 78 yrs.

Charlotte M., daughter of John and Thankful Ball, died May 2, 1849, in 11th yr.

Leander Ball, Oct. 15, 1830—Aug. 10, 1905.

Bathsheba D. Mitchell, his wife, Oct. 8, 1833—May 29, 1906.

Author W., son of Leander and Bathsheba Ball, Feb. 14, 1861—Apr. 2, 1914.

Sarah Cole, daughter of Leander and Bathsheba Ball, June 1, 1871—Aug. 29, 1894.

Lloyd E. Ball, May 5, 1855; died July 29, 1918.

Edith C. Ball, his wife, born Mar. 7, 1860—Oct. 31, 1905.

Icivilli C., daughter of Lloyd E. and Edith C. Ball, died Sept. 11, 1885, ae. 13 weeks.

Macy C. Ball, born Oct. 9, 1864; died Mar. 15, 1911.

Martin Vanburen Ball, 1839—1926.

Mary Jane Hull Champlin, his wife, 1848—1925.

Their children: Susan Rebecca, 1874; Florence Alberta, 1878.

Margaret M. Ball, died Jan. 21, 1892, in 85th yr.

Moses D. Ball, died Dec. 6, 1853, ae. 34 yrs., 3 mos., 3 da.

Matilda R., wife of Moses D. Ball, died Apr. 4, 1899, ae. 74 yrs., 6 mos., 3 da.

Nathaniel D. Ball, lost at sea.

Margaret D., his wife, 1816—1896.

Their son, Moses D. Ball, 1858—1890.

Ellen A. Ball, infant daughter.

Capt. Nathaniel D. Ball, Aug. 23, 1843—Sept. 25, 1908.

Harriet A. Ball, his wife, Apr. 7, 1845—Feb. 17, 1900.

Hon. Nicholas Ball, son of Edmund and Charity Dodge Ball.

Eliza Ball, daughter of Abram and Sybil Littlefield Milliken.

Nicholas Ball, born Dec. 31, 1828; died July 31, 1896.

Eliza Milliken, his wife, born Sept. 3, 1829; died Apr. 14, 1870.

Almedia R. Dodge, his wife, born Nov. 19, 1846; died Nov. 13, 1930; daughter of Solomon and Catherine Willis Dodge.

Philamon Galusha, son of Nicholas and Eliza Ball, born Jan. 29, 1858, and died Sept. 11, 1858.

Eugene, son of Nicholas and Eliza Ball, May 6, 1852—Aug. 12, 1865.

Infant of Nicholas and Eliza Ball.

Imogene, daughter of Nicholas and Eliza Ball, Sept. 14, 1859—  
Aug. 17, 1870.

Infant son of Nicholas and Almedia R. Ball, born May 3, 1874;  
died July 10, 1874.

Father Nicholas Ball, 1880—1941.

Noah D. Ball, son of Edmund Ball, born June 13, 1820; married  
Ruth, daughter of Moses and Nancy Ball, only child.

Josephine, married Joseph, son of Lyman Ball, May 20, 1844.

Noah, mate of schooner *Empress*, Capt. Shores, Taunton, left New  
York for Richmond and crew not seen again.

Peter Ball, born July 23, 1750; died Dec. 1829, in 80th yr., son of  
Edward Ball, 2nd.

Elizabeth Simms Ball, his wife, born Westerly, R. I., about 1753;  
died, 1831.

Elizabeth Ball Willis, born Oct. 7, 1798; died Apr. 13, 1873, in  
84th yr. Erected by Nicholas Ball, 1890.

In memory of Samuel Ball, who died Dec. 11, 1852, in 87th yr.

In memory of Caty, wife of Samuel Ball, died Apr. 18, 1821, in  
48th yr.

Catherine, daughter of Samuel and Olive L. Ball, departed this  
life June 16, 1838, ae. 4 yrs., 11 mos., 5 da.

James C., only son of Samuel and Olive Ball, died Oct. 8, 1854,  
ae. 17 years.

Simon R. Ball, Feb. 12, 1816; died Dec. 20, 1897.

Alice Dodge, his wife, Oct. 10, 1831; died July 25, 1915.

Celia Ann L., wife of Simon R. Ball, May 29, 1851, in 42nd yr.

Celia Adlade Ball, born Jan. 3, 1844; died Aug. 13, 1896.

Edward M. Ball, 1852—1916.

Simon R. Ball, Oct. 10, 1856; died Oct., 1943.

Celia A. Redington, his wife, Apr. 22, 1853—Nov., 1940.

Their son, Edward Searles, July 9, 1907.

Baby Simon F. Ball, Sept. 29, 1900—July 5, 1901.

Thaddeus Ball, 1840—1930.

Deborah H. Ball, 1849—1915.

Warren A. Ball, 1854—1923.

Anna C. Milliken, his wife, 1858—1933.

Their daughter, Cora E., 1875—1875.

William Ball, died Jan. 1, 1869, in 87th yr.

Deborah, wife of William Ball, died Sept. 14, 1850, in 64th yr.

Jonathan S., son of William and Deborah Ball, died Feb. 5, 1885,  
in 75th yr. of his age.

## BALL

William B. S. Ball, 1828—1903.

Elmira Dewey, his wife, 1832—1919.

Elmira D., daughter of William B. S. and Elmira Ball, born Sept. 20, 1861; died Mar. 23, 1879.

Hon. William Pitt Ball, died May 5, 1855, ae. 51 yrs.

A man of noble and broad talents

possessed of many good qualities

and was a friend of the Poor.

at the time of his death he held the highest office of the town,  
was inspector of customs.

He lived much respected,

and died deeply lamented.

Rebecca Mott, his wife, died Aug. 23, 1870, ae. 61 yrs.

Mary G. Ball, 1826—1827.

William P. Ball, 1835—1900

Sarah E. Champlin, his wife, 1838—1912

Their children: Irving O., 1865, Eugene, 1867, W. Everett, 1875,  
Fenner, 1877.

William N. Ball, born Sept. 1854; died Dec. 8, 1922.

Dora N., wife of William N. Ball, daughter of Benjamin and

Margaret Sprague, died Apr. 18, 1893, ae. 36 yrs.

William, son of W. N. and D. N. Ball, died ae. 10 mos.

## BRIGGS

Jenette Sherry, daughter of Burton and Huldah Briggs, who died  
May 2, 1804, ae. 2 mos. and 9 da.

In memory of Mrs. Mary Briggs

The virtuous consort of Mr. Nathaniel Briggs

she died Mar. 7, 1795, ae. 25 yrs.

a lady highly respected for her domestic

virtues and for her exemplary piety

But how loved now valued once avails

the not to whom related or by whom begot.

## CARD

Nancy, daughter of Shadrach Card and Betsy, his wife, who died  
Jan. 26, 1814, ae. 25 yrs., 5 da.

William Card, 1848—1904.

Annie Elizabeth, his wife, 1847.

Algenon R. Card, 1848—1918. (on Thomas Rathbone stone)

Henrietta R. Card, 1852—1937.

Oscar A. Card.

## CHAMPLIN

- Christopher Champlin, died May 30, 1885, in 79th yr.  
Rosina R., wife of Christopher Champlin, died Apr. 16, 1871, in 61st yr.  
Sarah J. Peckham, wife of Christopher Champlin, died Nov. 23, 1920, ae. 74 yrs., 24 da.  
Christopher E. Champlin, L.L.B., Sept. 24, 1860—Dec. 11, 1915.  
Edward Hull Champlin, Jan. 25, 1823—Oct. 31, 1911.  
Susan S. Peckham, his wife, June 20, 1825—July 7, 1900.  
Children of Edward H. and Susan S. Champlin:  
Mary J. H., born Aug. 16, 1848—  
Carrie E., born Oct. 26, 1857—Oct. 24, 1924, sister.  
Edward P., born Jan. 18, 1865—1941.  
Evelyn Payne Champlin, 1862—1926.  
Robert P. Champlin, 1889—  
Lillian M. Champlin, 1885.  
John E. Champlin, died July 29, 1871, ae. 29 yrs., 10 mos. 20 da.  
John E. H. Champlin, died Aug. 17, 1856, in 51st yr.  
Dorcas Champlin, widow of John E. H. Champlin, who died Oct. 25, 1857, in 49th yr. of age.  
John P. Champlin, Dec. 15, 1838—Apr. 25, 1896.  
Lydia M. Rose, wife of John P. Champlin, Sept. 24, 1841—Feb. 23, 1921.  
John C. Champlin, M.D., Feb. 13, 1864—Sept. 14, 1917.  
Annie J. Conley, wife of Dr. John C. Champlin, Apr. 16, 1866—July 4, 1934.  
Millard F. Champlin, son of John E. H. and Dorcas Champlin, born May 23, 1852; died Nov. 3, 1923.  
Clara Champlin, wife of Millard F. Champlin and daughter of Walter and Sarah Stanton, died Dec. 29, 1877, ae. 25 yr., 1 mo., 29 da.  
Mr. Nathaniel Champlin, who died Apr. 18, 1836, in 70th yr. of his age.  
Thankful, widow of Nathaniel Champlin, who died Apr. 13, 1845, in 77th yr. of her age.  
Peleg C. Champlin, died Dec. 1, 1880, in 80th yr. of his age.  
Lucy P., wife of Peleg C. Champlin, died Dec. 12, 1887, in her 88th yr.

[to be continued]

[Note: *Block Island Cemetery Records* will be issued later as a separate with any corrections of errors that may be called to Mrs. Mansfield's attention. There will, of course, be several more installments in *Rhode Island History* before the reprint is published.]

## RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY



### NEW MEMBERS

*April 1, 1953 — June 30, 1953*

|   |   |
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| Mrs. David C. Aschman<br>West Hartford, Conn.     | Prof. Albert P. Martin<br>Hamilton, Ontario, Canada |
| Mr. William H. Boardman<br>Seekonk, Mass.         | Miss Edna D. Rice<br>Pawtucket, R. I.               |
| Mr. Frederick H. Bryant<br>Bronxville, New York   | Mrs. Achille Sammartino                             |
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| Mr. Arnold J. Green                               | Mrs. Ethel Taylor Webster<br>Chepachet, R. I.       |
| Mrs. Winifred Lovering Holman<br>Lexington, Mass. | Mr. Alan Vaughan Young                              |

The Society welcomes new members. Why not propose someone for membership or give him a membership as a gift? A blank form is enclosed in this issue. Call the Society, DE 1-8575, if you wish further information.

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